

St. Christopher Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

August 20, 2024

Opening Prayers

The Parish meeting opened with our traditional faith sharing and prayers. The Gospel for the upcoming weekend liturgies for the 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time was read aloud and reflected on by each individual Council member. Personal intercessions were prayed. We concluded Opening Prayer with collective participation in the Responsorial Psalm for the Sunday liturgy.

Welcome and Approval of Minutes

- Bill Blough presided as Vice Chair in the absence of Chris Rosati to whom the collective condolences of Council were extended on the death of his brother. Sarah Rish was welcomed and applauded as a new member of Council. Welcome also was extended to Julie Mallett and Jim Moran, both prospective new Council members.
- Council's meeting minutes for June 18, 2024, were approved and they will be posted on the St. Christopher Parish website.

Ministries Issues and Concerns

Religious Education

- PSR registrations are progressing at a good pace.
- Catechist positions are being finalized. One more catechist may be required.
- "The Way," the junior high school program newly introduced this past school year is drawing higher attendance. Director of Religious Education Sharon Armstrong is sharing with other churches at an upcoming Diocesan meeting the success in which "The Way" has been received by the students and parents at St. Christopher.

Ladies Guild

- A tour of the Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine in Euclid will be open to parishioners and guests on Wednesday, September 11th.
- The Ladies Night Out event will be celebrated Thursday evening, October 10th.
- Ladies Guild book club meetings will resume in September.
- Leadership changes after six years are in the works. The mission is being reviewed.

Mission Statement

We are the people of St. Christopher Catholic Church, a Eucharistic community of faith dedicated to . . .
Welcome, Celebrate, Care & Grow . . . in the image and likeness of Jesus.

- The Ladies Guild website is being expanded to add a monthly novena – first St. Thérèse of Lisieux – as well as a monthly item on women of interest and access to podcasts and other online resources curated for women of the Parish.

Walking with Purpose – Women’s Bible Study

- Pastoral Associate Melissa DiFini is working with Sara Salupo and Tiffany Barker who will organize this upcoming 22-week women’s Bible study program at St. Christopher.
- The program will be held from 7:30 to 9 PM on Thursday evenings from October 3rd to May 15th.
- *Walking with Purpose* aims to help women develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. Through personal study and small group discussions, participants will connect everyday challenges with solutions from the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church.
- *Walking with Purpose* has elicited positive feedback and complimentary reviews from other parishes.

Walking With Moms in Need

- The Ohio March for Life will be held on Friday, October 4th. An 11 o’clock rally will precede the noon march. A bus will depart for Columbus at 8:30 AM. Communications Coordinator Colleen McKenna is producing a promotional flyer for the event.

PATHS [Parents & Teachers Helping Students]

- Filling the position of PATHS President for the upcoming school year is edging closer. For now, the executive board is divvying up the responsibilities of the president’s role. The first PATHS meeting of the year is Tuesday, September 10th.

Social Concerns

- Christmas in July benefited the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless. Five carloads of donations were welcomed with gratitude. The organization asked to be considered for next year’s Christmas in July appeal too. It was suggested that perhaps the organization could be added to the annual St. Christopher Christmas GIFT program.
- On October 12th, a litter pilgrimage will engage 12 students volunteering service under the leadership of Kate Armstrong.
- A new Outreach Minister at St. Colman Church, Bernice Sanborn, is working in collaboration with Melissa DiFini, to strengthen our Church-in-the-City partnership.
- The St. Colman meal support will be resurrected in conjunction with St. Angela Merici’s ongoing commitment to this project. A calendar of meals to be served will be available in November. The goal is for St. Christopher Ministries and families to serve at least three meals annually. Typically, 80 -100 are served. Melissa DiFini, Sharon Armstrong, and Social Concerns Chair Jeanette Nappier have met with the St. Angela team to discuss coordination.

- Beginning in September, St. Christopher Parish food donations will be redirected to the St. Colman Church pantry. In addition to food, St. Colman's pantry can use personal care and household cleaning items. Help is needed to deliver donations to St. Colman. Monthly food donations to the Rocky River Assistance Program will be discontinued as RRAP is now fully resourced.

Social Concerns Future

- Cheryl Selak reported that only 3 people attended the Social Concerns August meeting.
- A lively discussion reflected Council members' thoughts after Jeanette Nappier's appeal last month for help in setting direction for the Social Concerns Committee.
- The Committee seems to be taking a new direction toward project leadership versus social concerns.
- Perhaps a rebranding of Social Concerns to something akin to Community Outreach might more accurately reflect that this Committee focuses on action – not just concern.
- There is concern that the very term “social concerns” carries political overtones.
- Meetings on Tuesday afternoons at 1 PM is a problem. A midday meeting automatically disqualifies a huge portion of parishioners who work or parent full-time.
- Virtual meeting access (e.g., TEAMS/Zoom) should be offered and encouraged.
- The suggestion was made that the Council formalize our feedback to the Social Concerns Committee and include concrete suggestions to respond to the Committee's request for our input.

J+Walkers Youth Group and Young Adults

- The Youth Group members and leadership spent August focused on participating in the Diocesan softball league, the Parish softball team, and the St. Christopher Parish Weekend. Pastoral Associate Logan Feldkamp and Deacon Mike Hayes provided team and league leadership. Six St. Christopher parishioners played on the Parish team – one of 10 teams throughout the Diocese engaging 180 players.
- Weekly Youth Group events will resume in September, offering activities for both high school and middle school students.

Parish Pastoral Council

- 2024 – 2025 Membership/Recruitment
 - Chris Rosati and Bill Blough will continue to meet with individuals who present themselves as prospects for Parish Pastoral Council service.
 - Prospective members are invited to attend a Council meeting to aid in their discernment process.

- Parish Meet & Greet
 - On Thursday, October 17th, Parish Ministries will be invited to meet with newly registered parishioners and showcase their ministries for prospective new members. The Meet & Greet event will be held in the Parish Center from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Invitations will be sent to those who have registered in the Parish in the past year – approximately 100+. Melissa DiFinì is coordinating the event.
 - Parish Council members felt strongly that the invitation to the Meet & Greet should be extended to ALL parishioners with appropriate messaging – “All are Welcome!”
 - Ministries that will be invited to participate include:

Ladies Guild	PSR
Liturgical Ministers – Lectors/EMs	Social Concerns
Music Ministry	St. Christopher School
Parish Pastoral Council	Walking With Moms in Need
PATHS	Youth Ministry
- Sarah Rish and Julie Mallett offered to represent our Parish Council Ministry.
- Parish Donut Sundays
 - Donut Sundays will be held after the Sunday morning Masses at 8:30 and 10 AM. Parish Council will be responsible to purchase, pick-up and deliver donuts and serve them with juice and coffee in the Parish Center. The Parish will pay for the donuts; donations to defray the cost will be accepted in a free-will basket.
 - The logistics of Donut Sunday will be researched by Dennis Haas with parishioner resources Mary Anne Kuhn, Rita Clark, and Marilu Norena who have experience hosting past parish events.
 - October 6th – Bill Blough and Cheryl Selak volunteered to coordinate.
 - November 3rd – Sarah Rish volunteered to coordinate. A 2nd volunteer position remains available to work with Sarah.
 - Parish Pastoral Plan Discussion
 - Future discussion will resume with Goal 2F: Improve the experience of weekend Mass as a means of increasing parishioner engagement.

Father John Updates and Concerns

- Technology – The migration of the Parish database from ACS to Realm is being leap-frogged a step to the Ministry Platform. This upgrade will provide calendar functionality which is vital to the church administration.
- Storm report – Overall, storm damage was relatively non-disruptive.
 - Power outages in the church, school, and rectory lasted about 5 minutes. Mary’s Room and the gym were without power for a week. Activities scheduled for the gym had to be relocated. Mary’s Room remained accessible with long daylight hours allowing scheduled meetings to proceed.

- The St. Christopher statue in front of the church toppled and was damaged. It will have to be replaced.
- Tree branches and limbs strewn about the property will be dealt with. Buildings were not damaged.
- Church roof drainage problems are causing leaks in the church interior. Interior scaffolding will have to be erected to remedy the damage. For now, affected church pews are partitioned off to prevent potential injury.
- Church gifts
 - \$1,000 was sent to St. Colman to help replenish the St. Colman pantry.
 - St. Colman and Rocky River Assistance Program will remain on the monthly gift envelopes that parishioners receive. Additionally, Walking with Moms in Need will be added.

SCP Weekend

- Kevin Tennant provided an update on this coming SCP Weekend. A copy is attached. (Addendum #1)
- Sponsorships are up \$5,000 to \$30,500 – including School families.
- Volunteers are still needed, especially for food service.
- AA is providing needed volunteers, especially on Sunday.
- The Parish raffle is the only raffle.
- A pizza vendor has yet to be identified.
- Bob and Annette Crook are managing the food preparation with an eye to offering superior quality at an affordable price. Friday and Saturday night dinners will include homemade pulled pork with an array of side dishes – all for \$15.
- There will be no food tickets. The food will be offered on a pay-as-you-go basis for cash or credit, including Apple Pay.
- Rocky River Brewing will be on hand with a truck with 4 kegs of beer. Canned beer will be provided by a distributor.
- 1 “fun ticket” will be sold for \$1.
- Deacon Mike Hayes will emcee the weekend.

Concluding Comments

- Additional agenda suggestions are welcome.
- Cheryl Selak will lead the closing prayer in September.

Closing Prayer and Mission Statement

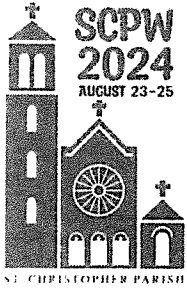
Dennis Haas offered our Closing Prayer. Reading and reflection of the Parish Mission Statement concluded the meeting.

Next Business Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

7 – 8:30 PM – Parish Center

Parishioners are welcome to attend.



SCPW WEEKEND

Presented by:



NORTHERN OHIO BUICK GMC DEALERS

August PPC White Paper

Weekend Hours & At a Glance Schedule *(subject to change)*

<p>OPEN Friday 8/23 5p-10:00p <i>All School Mass: 130p - 230p</i> Beer & Wine 5p - 9p Amazing Jeffrey Magic Show 530p Inflatables 630p - 930p Family Bingo 630p - 830p Michelle Romary Band 730p - 930p Balloon Toss 8p - 9p</p> <p>Also, Airbrush, Video Games, Free Play Games, etc.</p>	<p>Saturday 8/24 12p-11p <i>Kid's Fun Run: 1030a - 12p</i> Beer & Wine 12p - 430p; 6p - 1030p Carnival / Inflatables 1230p - 430p; 630p - 930p Rick Smith Magic 1p Nora the Explorer 2p Riley & Flanagan Band 3p - 430p Parish Mass: 5p - 6p Follow the Sun Band: 630p -1030p Raffle Draw: 830p <i>Other Activities TBD</i></p>	<p>Sunday 8/25 11a-2p Parish Mass: 830a - 930a Parish Mass: 10a - 11a Parish Mass: 1130a - 1230p Community Brunch 1230p - 2p Erny Nunez Jazz 1230p - 2p</p>
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News & Notes...

- News...
 - Currently \$30,500 in sponsorships including our presenting sponsor.
 - Parish Family and other offerings still available; but print recognition passed.
 - Volunteers have been coming in strong; slots certainly still remain.
 - Many have suggested they will be there to assist in any way as well.
 - AA will be helping out on Sunday Breakfast in some capacity and elsewhere.
 - Plans are set, a couple loose ends were finalizing but full speed ahead at this point.
 - We did nix any possible raffles we wanted to do; leaving just Parish raffle.
 - Food
 - Internal, excluding Pizza
 - During all FRI & SAT sessions, pizza, burgers and hotdogs will be available.
 - During FRI & SAT evening sessions homemade smoked BBQ Pulled Pork Meals with sides will also be available.
 - During SUN session, pancake breakfast will be available,
 - There will be snacks available as well and some concessions with water, iced tea, lemonade and cotton candy. Kona Ice will be with us Sat again.
 - Non-alcoholic mixology offerings done by Jr High/Highschool students on Friday

- Beer
 - RRBC (4 kegs); TBD on the Beers but will know when they arrive.
 - Using a Distributor for Cans as well
 - Miller Lite
 - Collision C-Town IPA
 - Collision Sunset Wheat
 - Leinenkeugel Summer Shandy
 - White Claw
 - Red & White Wine
 - Beer Garden
- Ticketing / Passes
 - \$1 Fun Ticket
 - Carnival Games, Beer, Mixology, Cotton Candy, Lemonade, Iced Tea, Bingo and Cake Walk.
 - \$5 Inflatable / Video Game Unlimited Pass
 - Food is pay as you go.
- Promotion
 - Emcee
 - Deacon Hayes will be our Emcee all Weekend
 - PR
 - Banners / Posters
 - Monitors
 - Many there visibilities: bulletin, constant contact, various pushes parish wide.
 - Website
 - The best location to find info.
 - As of today 1200+ site sessions since the site went live and over 700 unique visitors.
 - Trying to keep it updated as much as we can.
 - Social
 - Facebook Event Page and Parish Facebook are really all we are doing.
 - Event page has been getting daily updates of various things going on during the weekend.
- Volunteering
 - Sign-ups still coming in slowly but surely and groups are signing up were they can as well!